Export of Minerals from Orissa

*317. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the minerals other than iron ore, which are at present being exported from Orissa through Paradeep Port;

(b) whether MMTC is the main canalising agency for exporting these minerals;

(c) if so, what is the quantum of minerals like iron ore, manganese, chrome ore, chromites and graphites exported through Paradeep Port to different countries during the last three years; and

(d) what amount of foreign exchange was earned thereby during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) Manganese ore and Chrome ore, besides iron ore, canalised through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India (MMTC), are being exported by the MMTC from Orissa through Paradeep Port.

(c) and (d) The quantum and value of exports of these minerals exported by MMTC through Paradeep Port during the last three years is as under :—

Q—Quantity in Lakh Tonnes.
V—Value in Rupees Crores.

Item	1986-87		1987-88		1988-89 upto -8-3-89	
	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V
Iron Ore	20.80	41.56	17.10	31.61	15.93	31.80
Manages Ore . .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.11	0.81
Chrome Ore . . .	0.57	6.72	1.38	13.11	4.38	50.19

information regarding the quantum and value of exports of graphites and other minerals from Orissa through Paradeep Port is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Remittance by Emigrant Workers

*318. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:
SHRI M. KADHARSHA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of foreign exchange earned during the last three years by way of remittances by emigrant workers; and

(b) what would be the impact on such remittances due to steep fall in the number of emigrant workers during the months of December, 1988 and January, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Information in regard to remittances received from emigrant workers is not maintained separately.

Bank Loans for Weaker Sections

*319. SHRI M. S GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a scheme to improve the economic status of the weaker sections of the society;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme;

(c) whether the scheme was operated through the nationalised banks;

(d) whether certain norms were observed for the identification of the borrower by the banks;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof;

(f) whether it is a fact that several bank officials misuse their authority in sanctioning a number of fictitious loans; and

(g) what are the details of the reported cases of such banks/bank officials, the amount involved and action taken against the officer who sanctioned loan and the persons receiving the loans under mass loaning scheme under false identification papers (since the scheme's operation till date)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (g) The Government have formulated an Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) for improving the economic status of the weaker section of the society in rural areas. A Self-Employment Programme for Urban Poor has been formulated for weaker sections in urban areas.

Under IRDP government subsidy to the extent of 25%, 33-1/3% or 50% of the project cost is provided to small farmers, marginal farmers/ agricultural labourers and tribals respectively. The balance amount of project cost comes in the form of bank credit at an interest rate of 10% per annum. Under SEPUP the beneficiaries are provided bank credit at an interest rate of 10% per annum and 25% of the project cost is given as capital subsidy from Government to be adjusted in the borrowal account after repayment of the loan component. The beneficiaries under IRDP are identified by District Rural Development Agency while under SEPUP identification of urban poor is done by banks themselves.

The banks while determining the eligibility of borrowers under a particular scheme, observe the norms laid down for that scheme and also follow the guidelines prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India for lending to priority sector. The RBI guidelines *inter-alia* provide lower rates of interest for small and marginal farmers, liberal margin and security norms for small borrowers as well as non-charging of penal interest on small loans. The concerned banks managements take action as appropriate in cases, as may come to their notice of any abuse of authority in sanctioning of loans.

Establishment of New Free Trade Zones

*320. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Ministe of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many Free Trade Zones are operating in India at present and whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish new Free Trade Zones; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) Six Export Processing Zones/Free Trade Zones are presently operating at Kandla (Gujarat), Santacruz (Bombay), Cochin, Madras, Falta (West Bengal) and Noida (U.P.) The establishment of a Seventh Export Processing Zone at Visakhapatnam has been approved.

Continuance of Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme in Maharashtra

@2379 SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has requested the Central Government for continuance of the Cotton Monopoly Procurement Schemes for ten years beyond 30th June, 1989; and

(b) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

@Previously Unstarred Question 1823, transferred from the 10th March, 1989.